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Senate

(Legislative day of Friday, October 2, 1998)

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable MIKE DEWINE, a Senator from the State of Ohio.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Dr. William Hawkins, of Graves Memorial Presbyterian Church, Clinton, NC, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, whose compassion fails not and whose mercies are fresh and new every morning, hear our prayer as we look to You in spirit and in truth. We thank You for our Nation's leaders, who in times past found in You their stay in trouble, their strength in conflict, their guide and deep resource. May it please You heavenly Father that today this gathered company will find in You the same.

As the Psalmist has exclaimed, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord" (33:12), so may Your lordship be affirmed in our Nation and cherished always among the Members of this body. Grant unto these Senators the knowledge that they will serve our Nation best as they serve You first. Make them strong in Your strength, wise in Your wisdom, and compassionate in Your Spirit, that the legislation they propose will accomplish the greater good You would have them seek. Keep them, their families, and all those they love safe from harm, physical and spiritual, so that they can be about the affairs of our Nation with full attention and devotion.

Grant unto each a sense of divine purpose, that they know themselves here not by chance but by design. Fulfill Your intentions for them in this high office, that they will be found working together, doing that which is pleasing in Your sight and in accord with Your holy will. In Your great name we pray. Amen.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read a communication to the Senate.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, October 8, 1998.

To the Senate: Under the provisions of rule I, section 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MIKE DEWINE, a Senator from the State of Ohio, to perform the duties of the Chair.

STROM THURMOND,
President pro tempore.

Mr. DEWINE thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The distinguished majority leader is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I will yield to the distinguished Senator from North Carolina who will welcome our guest Chaplain for the day.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from North Carolina is recognized.

WELCOME TO DR. WILLIAM HAWKINS, GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, I am indeed honored and happy to be here this morning with my home church preacher. Bill Hawkins has been pastor of my church for 10 years now and he has made an outstanding impression and done a great job not only for the church membership but for the city that we live in as well. He has a wife and two daughters and they mean so much to me personally and to the community we live in. He is a Virginian, but we do not intend to allow him to

leave. We plan to keep him in North Carolina and we are honored that he is there. He brings the youth and vigor to our church that we so much need. We are proud to have him there.

Bill, thank you.
I yield the floor.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I add my welcome to the guest Chaplain. He did a beautiful job this morning. I know he is going to be very dedicated to tending to the needs of the Senator from North Carolina, Senator FAIRCLOTH.

We are delighted to have you here.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 10 a.m. Following morning business, under a previous order, the Senate will begin 1 hour of final debate on the conference report to accompany the VA-HUD appropriations bill. At the expiration of debate time, at approximately 11 a.m., the Senate will vote on adoption of that conference report. Following that vote, the Senate may resume consideration of the Internet tax bill. I believe we are about ready to complete action on that. We have been saying that for a week, but I think that the opposition really is minimal. When we finally get to a vote, it is going to be overwhelming. I hope those obstructing and delaying the bill will give it up and let us get to the final passage of this important legislation before we leave. I understand there is one outstanding issue remaining on that legislation. Hopefully, it can be resolved by the managers early this afternoon.

In addition to the Internet bill, the Senate may consider the intelligence reauthorization bill, the human services reauthorization bill, under a 30-minute time agreement, and, possibly, the Treasury-Postal Service appropriations bill. The Senate may also begin

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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